

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 29 and 35 – 41 are submitted for examination.

Claims 30 – 34 are canceled.

Claims 1 – 27, 29 and 35 – 41 are allowed.

Claim 28 was rejected under 35 USC §112 as lacking an antecedent for the descriptive phrase "said composite". Upon review, it was found that claim 29 was defective for the same reason. Claims 28 and 29 are dependent claims presented as depending from claim 22. However, the "composite material" antecedent referenced by claims 28 and 29 is presented in claim 23. Hence, claims 28 and 29 are hereby amended to reference dependency from claim 23.

The Examiner's allowance of claims 1 – 27, 29 and 35 – 41 and the finding of allowable subject matter in claim 28 is greatly appreciated.

The specification paragraph [[0055]] has been amended to capitalize all letters in the trademarked term "STYROFOAM". In view of Applicant's cancellation of rejected claims 30 – 34 and the correction of objectionable claim 28, the application is now believed to be in present condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



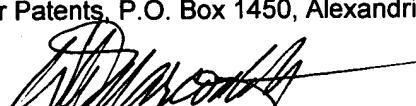
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W. Allen Marcontell